

Kamilla Twardowska

Theodore Lector's perspective on religious images

The purpose of this lecture is to show and analyse the description of images we find in Theodor Lector's work.

In short, Theodore Lector's work is not a treatise on art, but a source that incorporates various items of information relating to works of art into its argument. Theodore states his own opinion only in one particular case: the image of Christ. In all the other cases, his mentions relating to the images are complementary to the events described. Nonetheless, all the pieces of information that he provides are of great significance to scholars who concentrate their attention on this period. Thanks to Theodore, we can now shift the emergence of the religious panel painting to the second half of the fifth or the early decades of the sixth century, determine the existence of canons in religious art already in the early sixth century, confirm the belief in the miraculous healing powers of religious images, and show the presence of the subject matter which is absent in other sources.